

BOOK REVIEWS

MATT WARNOCK TURNER. 2009. **Remarkable Plants of Texas.** (ISBN 978-0-292-71851-7, hbk.). University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, Texas 78713-7819, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.utexas.edu/utpress.com, 1-800-252-3206, 1-800-687-6046 fax, email utpress@uts.cc.utexas.edu). \$29.95, 320 pp., color images and photographs, 7 1/4" × 10 1/8".

Remarkable Plants of Texas is a fantastic collection of information on Texas native plants. It includes over 100 magnificent color photographs with informational descriptions of every plant. The 65 plant entries contain one or more similar plants and are separated into plant types: trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, cacti, grasses, vines, and aquatics. Each plant entry includes helpful information such as common names, scientific family name, botanical description, habitat description, and color photographs of the plant. In addition to the basics, author Matt Turner has included plant uses and location. With regard to uses, Turner notes both historic and current applications. Some of the useful features discussed are wood quality, medicinal value, culinary uses, fiber, building materials, dyes, fragrances, uses as animal fodder, and other economic and social uses.

Remarkable Plants of Texas is a relatively unique book due to the large amount of information on Texas native plants history and uses collected all within one text. As such, Turner has provided a fantastic reference text as well as an entertaining and informative read. It is a wonderful book for considering the way people and plants are connected and interact; not only today, but also historically. Overall, this book is a great collection of facts and plant histories that any plant lover would love to read.—*Lee Luckeydoo Dreese, Volunteer, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-4025, U.S.A.*